Alberta Agriculture Annual Report 1989-90

Alberta

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Alberta
AGRICULTURE

Regions and Districts

Region 1	Southern
Region 2	South Central
Region 3	North Central
Region 4	North East
Region 5	North West
Region 6	Peace River
Regional Office	□
District Office	•

Alberta Agriculture
Annual Report
1989-90

Alberta
AGRICULTURE

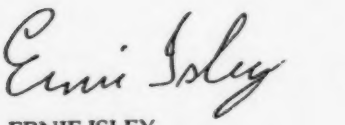
Alberta Agriculture's Annual Report 1989-90

HIS HONOUR THE
HONOURABLE GORDON TOWERS
Lieutenant-Governor of the Province
of Alberta

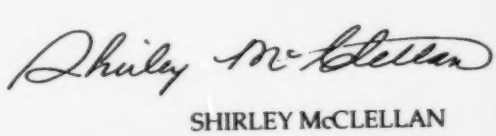
Sir:

We have the honour to submit the annual report of Alberta Agriculture for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1990.

Respectfully,



ERNIE ISLEY
Minister of Agriculture



SHIRLEY McCLELLAN
Associate Minister of Agriculture

Alberta Agriculture's Annual Report 1989-90

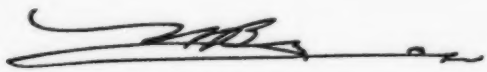
THE HONOURABLE ERNIE ISLEY
Minister of Agriculture

AND THE HONOURABLE SHIRLEY McCLELLAN
Associate Minister of Agriculture

Sir and Madam:

I have the honour to submit the annual report of Alberta Agriculture for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1990.

Respectfully,



H.B. McEWEN
Deputy Minister

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Report of the Deputy Minister

Readers will notice a difference in the format of this 1989-90 Annual Report of Alberta Agriculture. It is a first attempt to better reflect the department's strategic approach to service to the farmers, farm families and food processors of our province.

It is my strong belief that the effectiveness of Alberta Agriculture hinges on clear direction, people, planning and partnership. We receive sound leadership and clear direction from our Ministers. Staff plan and work together in partnerships with each other, with other departments and governments, and with those we serve in the private sector.

Alberta Agriculture's mission is to support the maintenance and further development of a viable agriculture and food economy in Alberta. To this end we have adopted, and manage to the following eight goals:

- to increase the long-term profitability of primary producers,
- to increase the long-term profitability of agriculture and food processors,
- to foster self-reliant industry organizations,
- to ensure the existence of appropriate private and government support systems,
- to assist in developing and advocating appropriate agriculture and food policy,
- to ensure the existence of appropriate capital works,
- to promote responsible management of Alberta's soil and water resources,
- to foster sustainable agriculture.

As referenced above, pursuit of these goals in 1989-90 is captured and summarized in the four main sections of this report: serving primary producers, serving agriculture and food processors, building together and conserving agricultural resources.

What characterized the Alberta agriculture and food industry in 1989-90? Fortunately, farmers were able to reduce otherwise high interest costs to 9 percent with loans under the Alberta Farm Credit Stability Program and from the Alberta Agricultural Development Corporation. This benefit showed up in an overall decrease in farm bankruptcies and a generally more stable agricultural industry in Alberta in comparison to other provinces. In addition, continued provincial fuel and fertilizer benefits brought relief to the high input costs of our farmers.

1989 was generally considered a favourable year for the production of crops with yields and grades improved over 1988. However, many Peace River farmers were unable to complete harvest operations due to wet conditions; an estimated 300,000 acres of crops remained in the fields over winter. Farm Cash Receipts from the sale of grain and oilseeds increased by 14 percent in 1989. Increased marketings offset lower prices caused by a general decrease in world demand for grain and an increased total supply, particularly of wheat.

Alberta cattlemen expanded their herds in 1989 in response to increased demand and higher prices. In contrast, prices for hogs trended lower although total returns to Alberta hog producers remained near 1988 levels due to an increase in numbers marketed.

Realized net income of Alberta farmers in 1989 was $748 million, a 19 percent decline from the previous year's record level of $922 million. Total farm cash receipts were $4,533 million, marginally above 1988.

Further diversification and increased value-adding are related objectives that the department shares with the industry. Since 1987, food and beverage factory shipments of Alberta processors have been equal or greater than farm receipts, over $4,500 million in 1989.

I conclude by thanking all the dedicated staff of Alberta Agriculture, our most valuable resource. It is my belief that our strategic management approach and capable staff will ensure that the department continues to merit a position of trust and excellence in the agriculture and food industry. This standard will be maintained as we plan and work together toward 2000.

H.B. McEwen
Deputy Minister

Alberta's farms generate income and employment that serve to broaden the province's economic base. Departmental services are designed to help producers increase their long-term profitability, management, diversification, self reliance, and to deal effectively with social, economic and environmental change.

Serving Primary Producers

Local Support

Regional and district staff are the cornerstone of the department's direct service to primary producers. The department's 352 field services staff in its six regional and 66 district offices handled producers' requirements for information through office visits, personal consultations on farms, training courses, meetings, newsletters, newspapers, radio and publications. In addition, various support programs offered by the provincial and federal governments were provided through local offices. Staff actively worked to increase the number of farm families that have the self reliance to deal with the changing economic and social environment. Farm women's conferences were offered to discuss family and personal development, financial management, environmental issues and conservation.

Program development, technical assistance and services, administration and other central functions were carried out by staff in Edmonton and other headquarters locations.

Farming for the Future

During the year, Alberta Agriculture awarded $3.6 million through Farming for the Future to fund 90 research projects on primary production. The transfer of new technology to producers was accelerated through the department's support of 144 on-farm demonstration projects which allowed farmers and research scientists to work together in putting agricultural innovations into action.

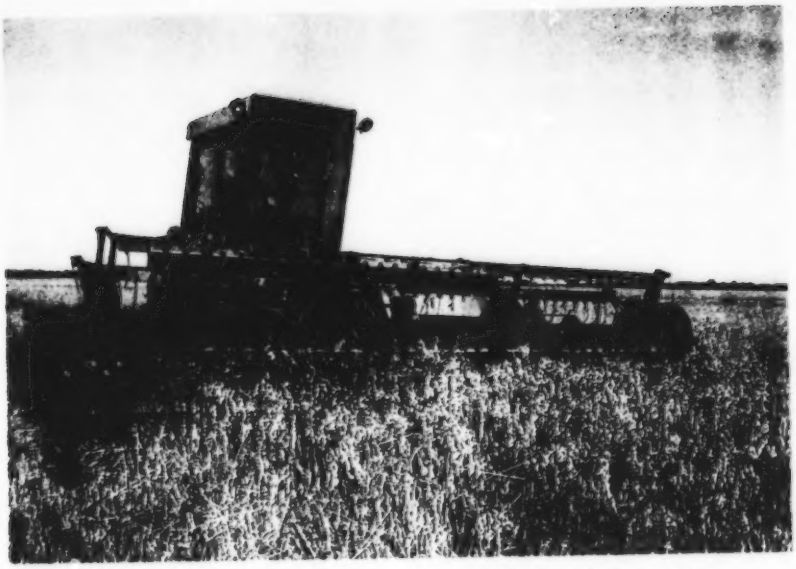
New Developments in Crop Variety Testing

The department initiated a perennial forage testing program so that the best suited varieties can be recommended for every agro-climatic zone in Alberta.

Condor barley, developed by Alberta Agriculture staff, was released to the public. This hull-less barley has great potential as a high energy feed in the hog industry. It is also being tested by several major food manufacturers. Pika winter triticale, also developed by the department, was registered and has a place as a pasture crop in Alberta.

New Crops

Department research staff tested over 100 annual and perennial herbs and spices for adaptability to southern Alberta growing conditions. Large plots of several promising crops were established and commercial scale plantings of a few selected spices and essential oil crops were undertaken to gather economic yield and quality information. The trials showed that some cultivars of basil, coriander, fennel and dill are



adapted to Alberta conditions. There are problems with the winter survival of peppermint and spearmint. Monarda, the crop that is the source of the essential oil geraniol, overwintered successfully at Bow Island and Carmangay. Commercial quantities of geraniol were sold to the French fragrance industry. A permanent research substation was established by the department at Bow Island to evaluate new kinds of crops that may be grown in Alberta. Some of the crops that showed promising results at the Bow Island test site and other locations included day neutral strawberries and the cut flowers alstroemeria and freesia. Several varieties of European field peas were obtained and tested for their agronomic suitability to Alberta conditions.

Greenhouse Industry Assistance Program

This $2.4 million, four-year program was initiated to encourage existing and new greenhouse growers to adopt new technology and diversify into less traditional crops. Grants totalling $200,000 were made to 34 growers to assist in computerizing environmental control systems and reglazing greenhouses with more efficient coverings.

Using Pesticides Safely

The department placed a new emphasis on the use of protective clothing and other safety devices for use by farmers when applying pesticides. The *Guide to Crop Protection in Alberta – Chemical*, a comprehensive reference manual, was distributed to farmers and served as their main reference for selecting the most appropriate chemicals for crop protection. The book contains information on the registered agricultural chemicals available in Alberta and the methods of safely applying and disposing of these chemicals.

Controlling Pests Without Chemicals

Alternatives to chemical control of pests were investigated and encouraged. European biocontrols of various pests were screened for potential use in Alberta.

Sheep effectively controlled a leafy spurge infestation along 35 kilometres of the St. Mary's River basin. This demonstration showed that sheep were able to control leafy spurge in an environmentally sensitive area and allowed the established grasses to compete successfully with this troublesome weed. In another project to find a biological control method for leafy spurge, spurge-eating beetles were used. Two-thirds of the 1988 release-sites had successfully established populations by 1989. Beetles were released at another 32 sites during 1989.

Two- and six-row barley varieties were screened for resistance to barley thrips. There may be some genetic resistance, which will be investigated further.

Livestock guard dogs were successfully used to prevent coyote predation of livestock in southern Alberta. The department developed educational materials to encourage more producers to adopt this technique of protecting livestock.

Stopping the Spread of Blackleg of Canola

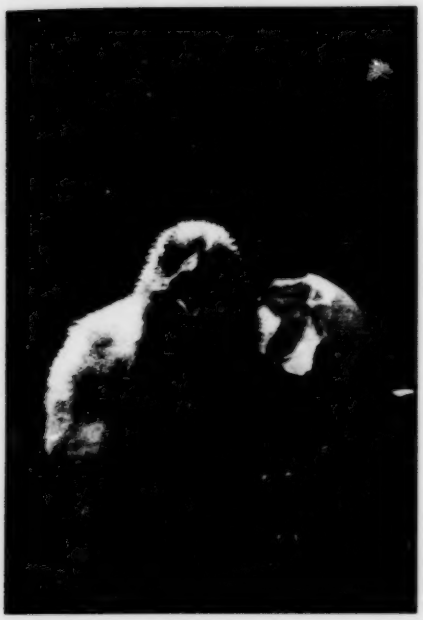
The department co-operated with municipalities to survey the province's canola crops for virulent blackleg. Alberta Agriculture implemented a seed testing program and paid the first $20 of each blackleg test. Nearly 1300 canola samples were analyzed – only one tested positive for blackleg of canola. An information program was implemented to improve grower awareness of the disease, and all growers with land known to be infested with virulent blackleg were supplied with information on the control of this disease.

Bacterial Ring Rot Problems

A co-operative program to eradicate bacterial ring rot in potatoes was developed with the federal government. Only one field in Alberta was found to be infested with bacterial ring rot and corrective action was taken. Alberta seed potato growers and commercial growers achieved the lowest overall incidence of this destructive disease in Canada. The high quality of Alberta seed potatoes was an important selling feature of Alberta potatoes in the United States market.

Predicting Insect Infestation Levels

The population levels of grasshoppers, stinkbugs, and several species of cutworms were monitored. The department used sex attractant traps to collect data on the distribution and abundance of pest moths. The program was expanded in many districts to increase the level of accuracy. The data, based on the number of insects caught in pheromone



traps during the flight periods of each species, will be used to predict infestation level of the pests in future years. This will enable the department to advise producers when pest insects are abundant and what timely control measures to take.

Russian Wheat Aphid

The Russian wheat aphid, a new and potentially devastating cereal pest, was identified in the province. Information was prepared on identifying and controlling the insect. The department held seminars with farmers, aerial applicators and extension agents to provide training on recognizing this aphid, the damage it causes and the treatments that are available. A system for the rapid identification of winged aphids using suction traps was introduced.

Improving Animal Health Services

Diagnostic assistance was provided to clients on 10,000 cases of disease in cattle, 3,500 in poultry, 550 in swine and 250 in sheep and goats. Facsimile machines were installed in three laboratories to speed up the transmission of written reports and diagnostic information to veterinary clinics. An upgraded, internationally recognized selenium analysis service was developed to help operators overcome cow-calf production problems caused by selenium deficiencies. Veterinary services were provided in northern Alberta through the government- owned veterinary clinics at Edson, Fairview, Valleyview, High Prairie, Manning, and Fort Vermillion. Veterinary services were improved in the Fort Vermilion area with the establishment of a local advisory committee to strengthen the relationship between producers and the veterinarian in the area.

Nocardia Mastitis Outbreak

In response to an outbreak of Nocardia mastitis in Alberta dairy herds, Alberta Agriculture established a Nocardia task force to co-ordinate efforts to identify the extent of the outbreak and implement effective control measures. Bulk milk samples from all Alberta herds were analyzed each month for a six month period. Producers who had samples that tested positive were advised to identify and cull the affected animals. New cases of Nocardia mastitis declined from 76 in October to six in March. As a result of the program, producers had a much greater appreciation of mastitis and the production losses caused by it.

Bee Industry

At least 14 commercial bee operations were infested with tracheal mites. This was the first appearance of this pest in the province. A survey was initiated to measure how extensive the mite infestation was in Alberta bee colonies.

The United States-Canada border was closed to the importation of bees to prevent the introduction of the varroa mite. Apiaries along the border were surveyed to ensure that this pest is detected quickly if it should cross into Canada.

With the closure of the border, it has become necessary for beekeepers to overwinter their colonies. Workshops were held to show beekeepers how to rear their own queens, raise beestock and winter colonies. More than 151,000 colonies were overwintered in 1989.

The department helped 115 beekeepers reduce their costs of over-wintering/spring feeding of honey bees through the Alberta Sugar Price Reduction Program. Producers were paid $3 per 40 kilogram bag of sugar. Total payments under the program were $111,459.

National Tripartite Stabilization

The department administered and cost-shared the operation of six tripartite stabilization plans with farmers and the federal government. Alberta Agriculture contributed $25.8 million in matching premiums to the plans which included programs for slaughter cattle, feeder cattle and cow-calf, hogs, sheep, sugar beets, and beans. The honey stabilization plan was introduced in June. The 22,000 farmers enroled in the programs received $101 million in stabilization payments in the fiscal year.

Crow Benefit Offset

Through the Crow Benefit Offset Program, the department compensated livestock producers for the price distortion caused by the decision of the federal government to pay the Crow benefit to the railways instead of producers. Nearly $48.9 million were paid to 26,974 feed grain users and 305 feed grain merchants on four million tonnes of feed grain which included: wheat, oats, barley, rye, triticale, grain corn, peas, faba beans, grain by-products and screenings.

Fertilizer Price Protection

Alberta Agriculture reduced farm input costs through the Farm Fertilizer Price Protection Plan. The significance of the rebates increased because of the lower fertilizer prices and higher volumes of fertilizer that were claimed for rebates under the program. More than $18.1 million were paid to farmers during the fiscal year.

Farm Credit Stability

Alberta farmers continued to receive long-term, fixed-rate financing under the Alberta Farm Credit Stability Program. During the fiscal year there was a net increase of 8,063 loan authorizations, totalling $490.7 million. Since the inception of the program, nearly $2.3 billion in loans have been authorized at a fixed nine per cent interest rate for terms of 10 to 20 years.

Alberta Drought Assistance

Alberta Agriculture provided second instalment payments totalling $5,653,000 to livestock producers affected by the 1988 drought. Payments were made for cattle maintained, and land planted to annual forage that could not have been classified as summerfallow for crop insurance purposes for 1990.

Financial Management Information

The department provided specialized information in the areas of farm taxes, estate planning, farm business arrangements, and the use of computers in agriculture. Much of the information in these subject areas was disseminated to the farm public through publications such as: *Sources of Assistance*, *The Agriculture Software Directory* and *Farm Debt: The Legal Implications*.

Material was developed for field staff to use while counselling clients on farm bookkeeping, farm office planning and design, insurance, and estate planning. A home study course on home-based businesses was developed to help farm families that need to supplement their incomes and the Farm Estate Planning home study course was revised.

Market Outlook Information

The department monitored and analyzed agricultural markets, and provided market outlook information through extension courses and comprehensive reports such as *The Weekly Livestock Market Review* and *The Weekly Grain and Oilseed Market Review*.

Better Client Services Through Computer Systems

The department developed special automated information processing systems to improve handling and speed up payments to participants in programs such as Farm Fertilizer Price Protection, Crow Benefit Offset, and National Tripartite Stabilization. The computer ordering system for the Shelterbelt Tree Program was revised to speed up order-handling and response to problems. The department also set up a computerized system that facilitates and hastens the tracking of missing cattle.

Alberta Agriculture completed the installation of computers in all of its district offices to ensure that field staff are able to make full use of computer technology in serving their clients.

Processing of agricultural products generates income and employment, and broadens the province's economic base. A strong, dynamic processing industry benefits Alberta's primary producers by stabilizing and adding to incomes, and providing opportunities for growth and diversification.

The department provided services to increase the long-term profitability of agriculture and food processors, and assisted processors in dealing with market, economic and environmental change.

Serving Agriculture and Food Processors

Developing Markets for Processed Products

Department staff worked closely with food processors to identify new market opportunities. Alberta Agriculture facilitated contact between processors and buyers by supporting incoming and outgoing missions. In some instances, technical assistance was received from the Food Processing Development Centre to adapt products to meet the specific need of various markets.

Pacific Asia continued to be a growing market for Alberta food products. Exports of Alberta food products to Asia constituted more than one third of the province's food exports. A number of missions to Asia were supported by the department including missions to promote Alberta beef and gather information on marketing canola meal. Market research studies were also conducted on the opportunities for canola oil, soft winter wheat and oats.

The Alberta beef seminar program provided an opportunity for wholesalers and distributers in the Minneapolis, Phoenix and Salt Lake City markets to taste Alberta beef and learn about the cuts produced by Alberta packers and the Canadian beef grading system. A Quebec beef market consumer study provided information that will ensure Alberta maintains its market share of beef sales in that province.

The department-hosted Target West seminar helped Alberta food processors gain the marketing skills needed for successful entry into the United States market. The seminar featured information on how to gain contacts, conduct sales and assess market potential.

Missions from Foreign Countries Supported by the Department

Product	Nation(s)
Beef breeding stock	Chile, Japan, Korea, Mexico
Dairy breeding stock	United States
Swine breeding stock	Japan, Korea, Mexico
Winter rye and oat seed	Korea
Bakery products	United States
Beef and pork	Korea, United States
Bottled water	United States
Condiments	United States
Honey products	United States
Livestock genetics	Iran, Japan, Korea, Soviet Union
Processed foods	Japan
Processed forage products	Japan, Korea, Portugal, Taiwan
Processed meats	Japan
Wines and spirits	Japan

Missions to Foreign Countries Supported by the Department

Product	Nation(s)
Barley	Korea
Malt barley	Hong Kong, Indonesia , Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand
Oats	Korea, United States
Oat seed	Korea
Organic grain	Germany, Holland, United Kingdom
Peas	Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden, W. Germany, United Kingdom
Potato seed stock	Mexico, United States
Beef breeding stock	Australia, China, Japan, Thailand
Dairy breeding stock	Japan
Leisure horses	France, Germany, Italy, Japan, United Kingdom
Bakery products	United States
Beef	Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, United States
Canola oil and meal	Korea, United States
Essential oils	France
Honey	Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, United States
Livestock genetics	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Soviet Union, United States, Uruguay
Perogies	United States
Pre-mixed flours	Japan, Korea, United States
Processed forage products	Japan, Korea, Kuwait, Oman, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates
Processed meats	Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Taiwan, United States
Specialty beers	Japan, United States
Wines and spirits	Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore

Marketing in Alberta

The department's Opportunity is Now Program assisted Alberta food processors with marketing their products in the province. The Savor Alberta Flavor Program was a joint effort of the Alberta Food Processors Association and the department's marketing and field staff that supported intensive food product promotions in local retail outlets throughout the province. Retailers reported that sales of Alberta products increased during promotions and were sustained at higher levels over the long term. Senior retail and food service representatives met regularly with department staff to discuss industry issues.

Developing and Diversifying

Through the Canada-Alberta Subsidiary Agreement on Agricultural Processing and Marketing (APMA), the department encouraged the growth and diversification of agriculture and food processing companies in the province by providing direct financial incentives. In 1989-90, 177 payments totalling $6.2 million were made to a variety of value-added projects. Sixty-eight offers of assistance totalling $8.5 million were also made through APMA after evaluations were completed by the department. Final payments on 23 projects were made under the Canada-Alberta Agreement on Nutritive Processing (APMA's predecessor) totalling $592,000.

Food Processing Technology

The department received about 1,500 requests for scientific and technical information from food processors. The Food Processing Development Centre offered a large number of services which ranged from offering 182 food taste panel presentations to providing a nutritional labelling consultation service to Alberta food processors in collaboration with Consumer and Corporate Affairs Canada. The department assisted food processors with nutritional labelling requirements for the Canadian and international markets by assaying food samples for vitamins, minerals and other nutritional components. The department also provided Alberta food processors with information on product and process development, ingredient and equipment suppliers, and packaging technologies.

The Food Processing Development Centre's product development laboratory and pilot plant production facility manufactured three restructured beef products for the Beef Information Centre, demonstrated batter, breading and frying technology for a provincial producer of food-coating crumb, and continued investigation of modified atmosphere packaging technology particularly with respect to meat and poultry products, bakery goods, prepared sandwiches, fresh pasta, salad mixes and produce.

The department, through the agri-food and processing development assistance program, provided 111 grants totalling $348,000 to agri-food processing companies for new product development. The funds were used for travel to evaluate new process technology and new product manufacturing and packaging technology that is not yet available in Alberta. Nine agri-food related associations received a total of $87,500 and the Alberta Food Processors Association received a grant of $300,000.

Under the Farming for the Future Program, nine food processing research projects were provided with funds totalling $292,000. Innovative concepts such as the use of biotechnology for meat preservation, and the development of vegetable fibres as a food ingredient were studied.

New Products

Two applications to test-market acidophilus milk were approved by the department. This product is manufactured from two per cent milk to which the bacteria acidophilus is added as a possible aid for digestion.

Departmental support for the province's saskatoon berry industry was expanded to identify the processing and quality concerns that need to be addressed. Frozen storage tests were conducted and the physical and chemical characteristics of 10 varieties were assessed.

Alberta Agriculture fostered the development of an essential oils industry in the province by evaluating and improving caraway and coriander oil extraction methods for two companies and assisting

another company with the production and marketing of crude mint and monarda oil.

Food Quality

As part of its on-going commitment to safeguard the quality and safety of food processed in Alberta, the department offered seminars and prepared written materials for Alberta's food processors stressing the importance of having quality assurance programs. Regular contact was maintained with industrial laboratories. The department acted as a resource for calibrating samples, identifying instrument problems and provided training to industry laboratories as new analytical methods were adopted.

A program was instituted to upgrade provincially inspected abattoirs to meet federal domestic standards. Upgrading was progressing well in poultry plants, but slowly in red meat abattoirs owing to high construction costs. Further discussion was held on the implementation of interprovincial trade of provincially inspected meat products. Under the authority of the Alberta Meat Inspection Act, over 210,00 animals were inspected at the 70 red meat plants in Alberta and nearly 3.4 million poultry were inspected at the 91 poultry plants. Sixty complaints of violations were received and most were resolved by discussion and negotiation. Three convictions were made under the Alberta Meat Inspection Act.

The need for proper food storage and preparation was emphasized in the department's extension programs. A key to food safety is the proper handling of food in the home to reduce the potential for microbiological contamination.

Analytical Testing Services

The department's food laboratory provided analytical testing services to food producers, processors and other government departments whose programs are related to food production, processing, safety and marketing. A total of 2.83 million analytical tests were performed on 694,882 samples of milk and milk products, meat, honey and other food products received by the laboratory.

The department conducted studies to determine the incidence of *Listeria monocytogenes* in processed meats and meat processing facilities, additionally the incidence of hemorrhagic colitis-producing strains of *Escherichia coli* in Alberta produced meats and other food products were investigated.

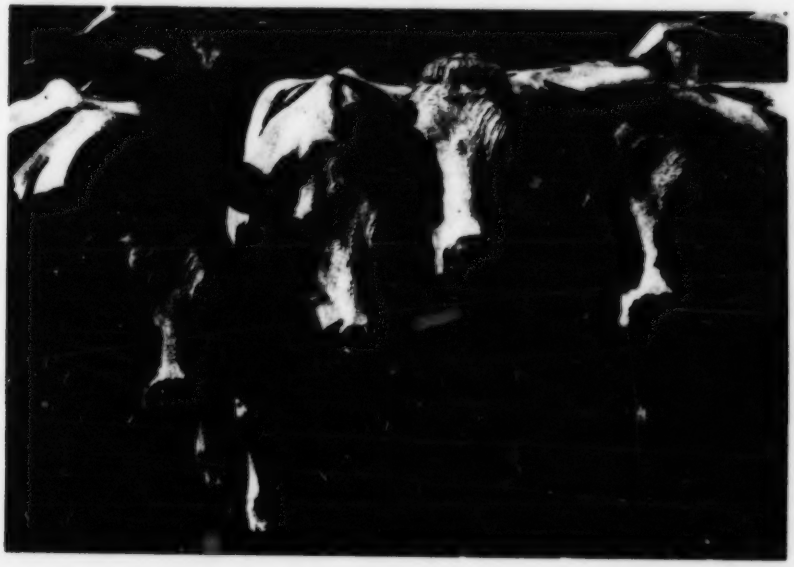
High Standards for Dairy Products

In conjunction with Agriculture Canada, the department carried out monthly inspections of all dairy manufacturing plants in the province. The average scores received during these inspections of Alberta dairy

plants remained the highest in Canada. Samples of all fluid dairy products manufactured in the province were analyzed on a monthly basis by the department's food laboratory. Testing revealed that 99.6 per cent of all fluid products met microbiological standards on initial testing.

The department developed a pasteurizer operators' course to ensure that those people operating continuous and batch pasteurizers understand the requirements and operation of these units. One hundred and forty-two pasteurizer operators successfully completed the examination at the end of the course and were eligible to receive a pasteurizer operator's licence.

A milking equipment evaluation unit was established at the Alberta Farm Machinery Research Centre. Among the projects carried out by the unit were evaluations of a variety of sizes and types of air flow meters which improved the understanding of flow meter function by department staff and established the level of confidence that can be placed in test results from dairy farms.



The department is committed to fostering self-reliant industry organizations, and ensuring the existence of appropriate private and government support systems to serve the needs of primary producers and processors. Alberta Agriculture worked in numerous ways with various outside groups to realize these goals.

Building Together

Supporting Producer Organizations

Alberta Agriculture worked closely with producer associations and businesses to inform them of new trade opportunities in Pacific Rim nations. As a part of this effort, the department hosted incoming buyer missions from Asia, Europe, Latin America and South America.

The department supported the marketing efforts of the province's horse breed associations with grants totalling $99,000 and co-ordinated the breed displays at Klondike Days in Edmonton, the Calgary Stampede and Equifair at Spruce Meadows.

The administration and lending activities of 57 local feeder associations were supervised by the department. The feeder associations program provides members with a method of financing the purchase of feeder cattle and lambs so surplus feed can be marketed through livestock.

Crop, feedstuff and horticultural organizations received grants totalling $393,000 to support their development. Cattle breed associations received grants totalling $217,000 and livestock, semen and embryo companies received grants totalling $49,000 for enhancing the development of both the genetic and commercial livestock industries. The department supported the Livestock Genetics for the 90s Conference.

Alberta Agriculture co-operated with several producer organizations by providing their respective publications with timely information and analysis reports, including the *Canada Digest*, *The Western Barley Grower*, *Cattlemen*, *Forage Seed Notes* and *NuKrop News*.

Developing Producer Organizations

Alberta Agriculture offered financial assistance and consultation to the Alberta Canola Growers' Commission and the Alberta Pulse Growers' Commission. Both commenced operation in August 1989. Development neared completion for the establishment of a winter wheat commission and a soft wheat commission.

The Alberta Oat Producers' Association was established. The department assisted in evaluating oat marketing opportunities and developing marketing plans, and completed a study of the North American oat industry.

The department worked with the Government of Canada and other provincial governments to assist with the formation of the Canada Beef Export Federation.

Developing Rural Leadership

Alberta LEAD (Leadership Education for Agricultural Development), combined the resources of Alberta Agriculture, the University of Alberta and the Rural Education and Development Association (REDA) to foster

the self-reliance of industry organizations by increasing their leadership competence. Grants were provided to the Alberta Women's Institutes, Alberta Women in Support of Agriculture and REDA to support the educational activities of these organizations.

Working With 4-H

Leadership development, public relations training and organizational training were provided to 4-H members. These services, provided with the assistance of the department, improved the skills that participants in 4-H programs were able to bring to their local communities and farm organizations.

Agricultural Societies

The department provided $1,997,000 in operating and capital grants to the province's 300 agricultural societies and administered the distribution of a further $5.4 million of lottery funds to class B, C, and D agricultural societies.

Agricultural Service Boards

Agricultural service boards received $4.3 million dollars from the department to subsidize salaries for agricultural fieldmen, the material and equipment costs for demonstrations, weed and pest control programs, and soil and water conservation activities. The department instructed agricultural service board personnel on all aspects of coyote damage control operations including the investigation of predation claims and the implementation of control programs which emphasize producer self-help and alternative control methods that do not involve killing coyotes.

Improving Dairy Herds

The department supported milk recording programs for dairy herd management in the province by providing a grant for one third of the operating expenses of the Alberta Dairy Herd Improvement Service (ADHIS) and covering ADHIS's computer expenses and co-ordinating their extension services.

Working With Other Departments to Help Farmers

Department staff assisted Alberta Public Safety Services with the registration of 3,500 producers in the Northwest Alberta Disaster Assistance Program. After the Eaglesham gaswell blowout, the Energy Conservation Board received assistance from staff to sample crops and soil, reclaim land as well as provide counselling to oil industry personnel and the affected farm families.

Staff participated in town hall meetings called by the Department of Health to ensure that the voice of producers was heard as revisions to the health regulations were studied. Particularly, they represented land

use planning and pollution abatement concerns related to intensive livestock operations.

More than 1,000 teachers in the province were provided with agricultural teaching material for the grades one to nine school curricula through the department's Agriculture in the Classroom Program. The goal of the program is to update the image of the agriculture industry so young Albertans can make informed decisions about the role of agriculture in society. Workshops were held with teachers to encourage and support the use of Agriculture in the Classroom material.

Developing and Advocating Agriculture and Food Policy

The decisions and policies of other provinces, the federal government and foreign governments affect Alberta's agriculture and food industry. It is critical that Alberta Agriculture be involved in discussions of these matters.

In support of such initiatives the department expanded its statisical and cost of production data bases. The Alberta farm income situation was monitored on an ongoing basis. Economic research in support of policy and program development was undertaken.

Alberta Agriculture participated fully in the "Growing Together" federal-provincial agri-food policy review. Representation and input were provided to a number of the review committees including: transportation, safety nets, farm finance and management, competitiveness in the agri-food sector, and sustainable agriculture.

The department worked closely with the federal government in the challenge of United States countervailing duties placed on Alberta hog exports. Alberta had legal standing in the challenge, the first time a Canadian province has had this right in a challenge of a finding by a U.S. trade regulatory body.

Alberta Agriculture pressed the federal government to obtain agreements with the United States to harmonize Canada-United States meat inspection procedures and improve access to United States markets, which resulted in an agreement to remove all border inspections for meat on a one-year trial basis. Work continued on the elimination of technical barriers facing Alberta's agri-food exports to the United States.

The department worked towards the removal of interprovincial barriers to trade regarding provincially inspected meat, and agreement was reached on the removal of barriers to interprovincial trade in honey. The department also assessed the trade policy implications for Alberta of several federal programs including the method of payment of the Crow benefit, the national tripartite stabilization plans and proposed reforms of the national poultry supply management system.

The department participated with the Government of British Columbia and the Alberta Wheat Pool in a comprehensive examination of grain

transportation issues. This co-operative effort led to a greater common understanding of measures which could resolve grain transportation problems for Alberta's grain farmers.

On-going initiatives continued with Alberta farm organizations, federal agencies and national grain trade interests to ensure a more market-oriented approach to grain marketing. Accomplishments of these efforts include the development of an operational Western Barley Futures Contract and the return of oats to the open market.

Taxes, Loans and Business Management

Department staff analyzed the federal goods and services tax (GST) proposal and negotiated with the federal government to change the provisions that were detrimental to Alberta's agriculture industry. As a result of the department's efforts and those of other agencies, the federal government expanded the list of farm inputs that are not subject to the GST.

More than 300 legal and accounting professionals participated in Farm Tax Update seminars sponsored by Alberta Agriculture in order to keep up to date on farm tax planning and business arrangement issues.

The department and Olds College jointly arranged the 11th annual Agricultural Lenders' Workshop to improve the understanding among bank loans officers of the current production and management issues faced by their clients.

Alberta Agriculture, as part of a three-year agreement with Canada Employment and Immigration, provided funding and a framework for the development and delivery of farm management courses by Alberta Agriculture and the private sector. In co-operation with REDA, the department delivered basic training in financial management and more detailed information on farm management and marketing as needed by the 775 farm families who participated in Gear Up Advantage courses. Under the agreement, private sector firms delivered farm management training to another 330 individuals.

Computer Software for Agriculture

Over 100 agricultural software developers, marketers and extension professionals attended AMSDAV 1989 (Agricultural Management Systems – Directions and Visions Conference), which was organized by the department in co-operation with Olds College. The conference provided an excellent opportunity for the computer industry to learn about the special needs and challenges of agriculture.

Private Testing Laboratories

To encourage patronage of private sector laboratory testing facilities, the department adjusted its animal disease laboratory testing fees to match

private laboratory fees. Alberta Agriculture provided quality assurance for private laboratories to protect producers and veterinary professionals.

Developing and Upgrading Seed Cleaning Facilities

Nearly 34 million bushels of cereals and oilseeds were processed at municipal seed cleaning plants. The department provided consultation on upgrading at 44 plants. Thirty-six upgrading projects were carried out with $408,000 in financial assistance coming from the Province. Another $400,000 in grants were given to seed cleaning plants to assist with replacement construction. Replacement plants were started at Rycroft and Boyle. Plans for future construction at Three Hills and Queenston were progressing.

An upgrading was planned at Morinville that will provide an excellent pea cleaning facility, giving the province's pulse industry a boost.

Capital Works

A new 1,440 square metre laboratory expansion was completed at the department's Alberta Special Crops and Horticultural Research Center in Brooks. The new facilities include growth chambers, controlled environment storage, production greenhouses and post-harvest and food processing laboratories. This new facility will greatly enhance the research programs carried on at the center.

Through the Irrigation Rehabilitation and Expansion Program, $24.8 million were provided for rehabilitating and modernizing Alberta's irrigation systems.

The department has responded to the challenge of managing agricultural resources in an environmentally responsible manner by focusing on research that conserves soil and water, testing equipment that will minimize moisture losses and soil degradation, and promoting the adoption of management practices by farmers that will ensure the productivity and sustainability of Alberta's land base.

Conserving Agricultural Resources

Canada-Alberta Soil Conservation Initiative (CASCI)

Alberta's efforts to maintain the agricultural landbase are centred on the Canada-Alberta Soil Conservation Initiative (CASCI), a three-year, $34.8 million agreement signed by the federal and Alberta governments. The program's purpose is to educate farmers and the public about the importance of soil and water conservation, and transfer new technology to farmers. A review of existing conservation policy, monitoring and land-use adjustment are included in CASCI's terms of reference.
Sixty-five agricultural service boards and 24 other organizations received grants from Alberta Agriculture totalling $1.3 million. These funds were used to establish long-term, locally based conservation plans. Alberta Agriculture field staff assisted municipalities in organizing meetings and research projects to show the value of soil conservation.

Through CASCI, the department allocated $2.15 million to provide technical and professional help to agricultural service boards, producer organizations and individuals with the purpose of speeding up the transfer of technology and information. One way these funds were used, was to prepare educational material. A soil conservation student booklet and teacher's guide were produced, and Olds College developed a soil and water conservation short course. Alberta Agriculture also funded a producer-initiated soil and water advisory team in southern Alberta to provide on-farm peer counselling services to farmers needing help with soil conservation problems.

Financial assistance for the purchase of over 456,000 shelterbelt trees was made available through CASCI to help reduce wind erosion and increase soil moisture retention.

Canada-Alberta Agreement on Soil, Water and Cropping Research and Technology Transfer (CARTT)

The major emphasis of the programs established under this agreement was the development and transfer of conservation, tillage and cropping technology on a province-wide basis through demonstration and applied research projects, and reviews of current farm conservation practices.

Another facet of the agreement included funding for agronomic research in northeast Alberta to find the best ways to produce agricultural crops in the diverse climatic and soil conditions of that area.

Conservation Research

Alberta Agriculture placed a major emphasis on conservation research. Under Farming for the Future, $543,000 were awarded to 15 basic research projects in soil and water management, and an additional $85,000 of funding was used for 14 on-farm demonstration projects. These research projects will provide valuable information for farmers in areas such as snow management, the best conservation tillage practices for the various soils in Alberta and improved use of irrigation water in southern Alberta.

Funds from CARTT were used to establish a demonstration site at Provost to gather information on economical ways of reducing tillage on summerfallow land and the use of reduced-tillage cropping systems.

Conservation research at the Alberta Farm Machinery Research Centre was aimed at determining how the timing and method of using various kinds of machinery affected soil and water conservation. The centre also studied the effect of various cropping systems and field practices on soil and moisture conservation, including chemfallow, zero-tillage planters and pneumatic seeders.

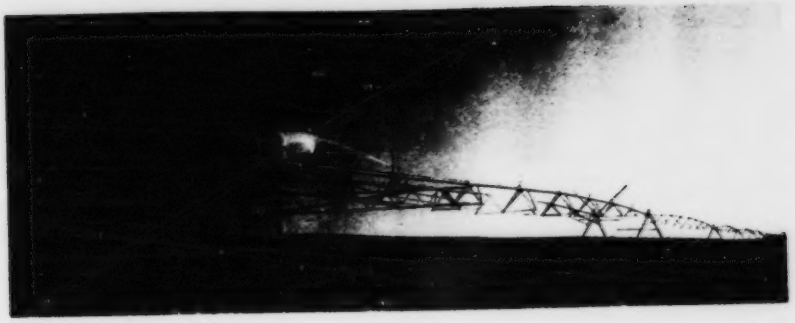
Long-Standing Commitment to Conservation

Regional and district staff emphasized conservation in their regular extension activities. Staff also worked closely with agricultural service boards, producer groups and farmers to implement conservation plans. Under its on-going soil conservation efforts, including the Soil Conservation Area Program (SCAP), the department provided farmers and municipalities with technical and financial assistance to prevent and control soil degradation as a result of wind and water erosion. Alberta Agriculture developed guidelines for the 1989 North West Alberta Disaster Assistance Program and handled the associated erosion-control evaluations. The department prepared a wind erosion risk potential survey to assist municipalities with their emergency erosion control plans. The dryland salinity investigation service continued to help farmers control salinity problems.

The Alberta Tree Nursery and Horticulture Centre distributed over 975,000 plants, an increase of 28 per cent from the previous year. The tree seedlings distributed by the nursery were used primarily for shelterbelt plantings to reduce soil erosion and for distribution on Arbour Day.

4-H promoted and encouraged conservation through its wildlife, bluebird, pheasant, field crops and outdoorsman club projects, the Alberta 4-H Centre at Battle Lake and the annual highway clean-up event.

Farmers placed over 150,000 calls to the Farm Weather Line, an Alberta Agriculture-Environment Canada service, to receive timely weather summaries to help them plan their farming activities.



Water Management

The department encouraged environmentally-responsible irrigation development by providing irrigation districts with technical assistance, construction and flow monitoring, materials evaluation, training programs and applied research. Proper soil and water management in irrigation districts was encouraged by evaluating and classifying lands for irrigation, mapping and studying soil salinity and reclamation activities, and studying the effects of irrigation developments on water quality.

The Alberta Irrigation Management Program (AIM) provided irrigators with training to monitor soil moisture levels and schedule the application of irrigation water for maximum benefit. The program was expanded to include evaluations of the overall efficiency of irrigation systems and of soil salinity and ground water problems. A total of 144 irrigators participated in the program, of whom 40 per cent were first-time participants.

Through the Alberta Private Irrigation Development Assistance Program (APIDA), the department assisted farmers outside of the irrigation districts with feasibility studies, design, and development of private conveyance systems. Eighteen irrigation projects covering 1,653 acres were approved. Assistance, totalling $157,669, included sprinkler system designs, land levelling, subsurface drainage, land reclamation and field evaluations of irrigation equipment.

On-farm water management was promoted through the Farmland Development and Reclamation Program (FDRP) that monitored moisture levels and advised departmental and municipal authorities on ways to deal with water deficiencies. FDRP demonstrations emphasized on-farm water use rather than removal of excess water.

Through the Farm Water Supplies Assistance Program, approximately 2,000 applicants were provided with funds to complete the construction or rehabilitation of dugouts and stock water dams, and to rent pumps and pipes to fill dugouts.

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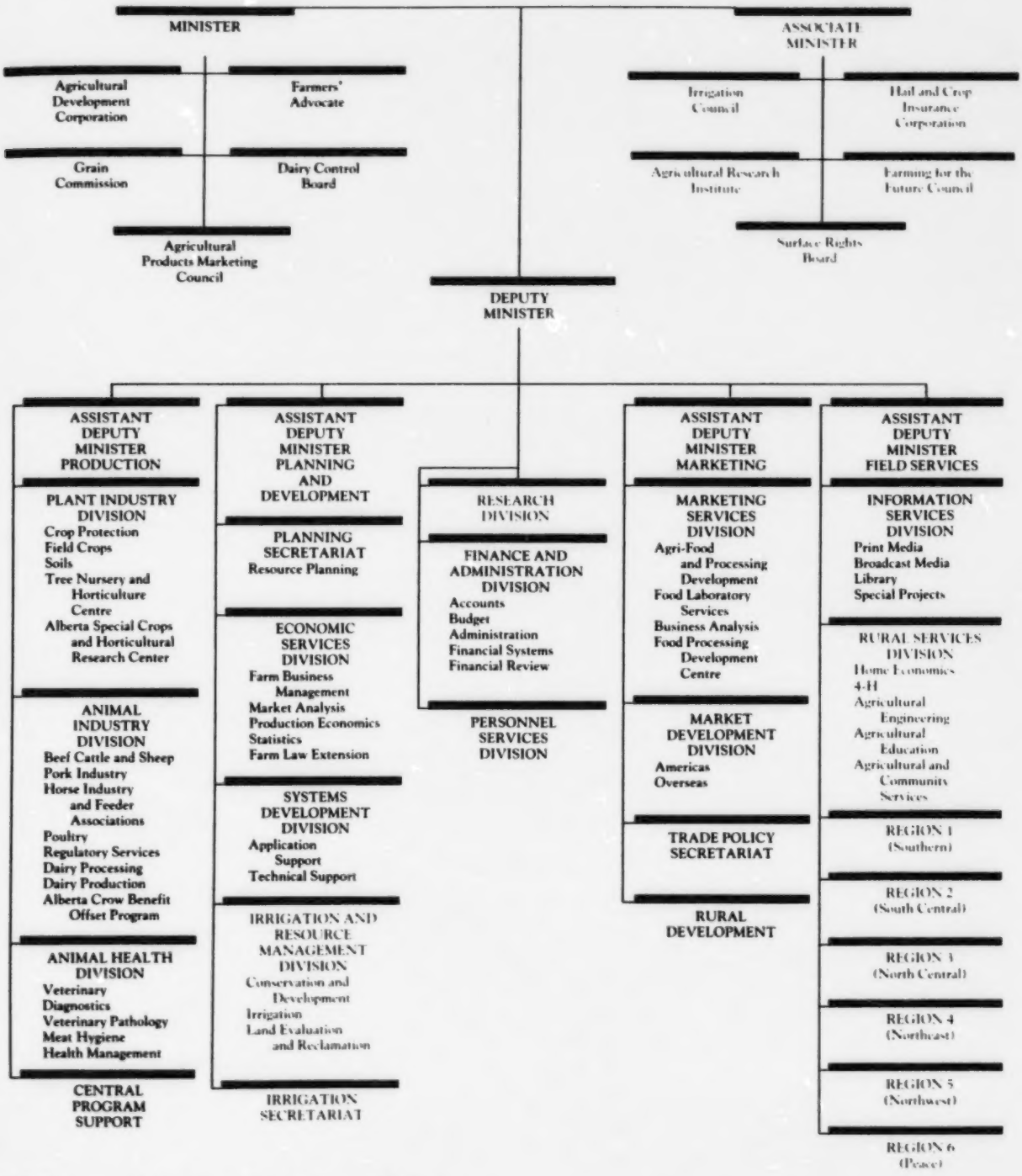
Organizational Chart

March 31, 1990



N.B. The areas printed in green ink are the Associate Minister's day-to-day responsibilities, and the areas to which she responds in the Legislature.

Appendix 2: Personnel Statistics

Permanent Positions as of March 31, 1990

Department support services	126
Primary production	443
Marketing and processing	106
Field services	463
Planning and development	208
Total	**1346**

Personnel Services Transactions April 1, 1989 - March 31, 1990

Commencements	171
Terminations	113
Transfers	83

Occupational Health and Safety Program Statistics April 1, 1989 - March 31, 1990

Employee hours worked	3,107,610
Disabling injuries	23
Medical aid cases	30
Fatalities	0
Frequency rate*	8.99
Severity rate**	106.77

**Frequency rate is the number of disabling injuries per million manhours.*

***Severity rate is the number of work days lost due to disabling injuries per million manhours.*

Alberta Agriculture Injury Costs

Current Costs (April 1, 1989 - March 31, 1990)

WCB assessment	$493,443
Compensation of wages (includes government supplement)	$89,851
Medical costs	$17,058
Pension awards	$49,025

Prior Year's Cost

Compensation of wages	$35,516
Medical costs	$61,772
Pensions	$89,952
Total Cost	**$836,620**

Appendix 3: Financial Summary

Budget Estimates, Special Warrants and Expenditures Classified by Vote ($'000)

	1989-90 Budget estimates	1989-90 Special warrants	Expenditures for the years ending March 31 1990[a]	1989[b]
Vote 1 – Departmental Support Services				
(No sub-program breakdown)				
Total Vote 1	11,276		10,866	10,049
Vote 2 – Support for Primary Production				
(Sub-programs)				
Program suport	2,676		2,767	2,080
Animal products	80,110	10,750	91,261	93,891
Animal health	8,263		8,430	8,206
Plant products	33,680		32,808	32,099
Total Vote 2	124,729	10,750	135,266	136,276
Vote 3 – Support for Marketing and Processing				
(Sub-programs)				
Program support	575		612	472
Marketing services	18,551	6,900	22,187	24,368
Market development	4,235		4,209	3,888
Total Vote 3	23,361	6,900	27,008	28,728
Vote 4 – Field Services				
(Sub-programs)				
Program support	255		251	267
Advisory services	16,541		16,571	16,004
Rural services	15,045		14,801	21,389
Farm financial management services	–		–	979
Total Vote 4	31,841		31,623	38,639

continued

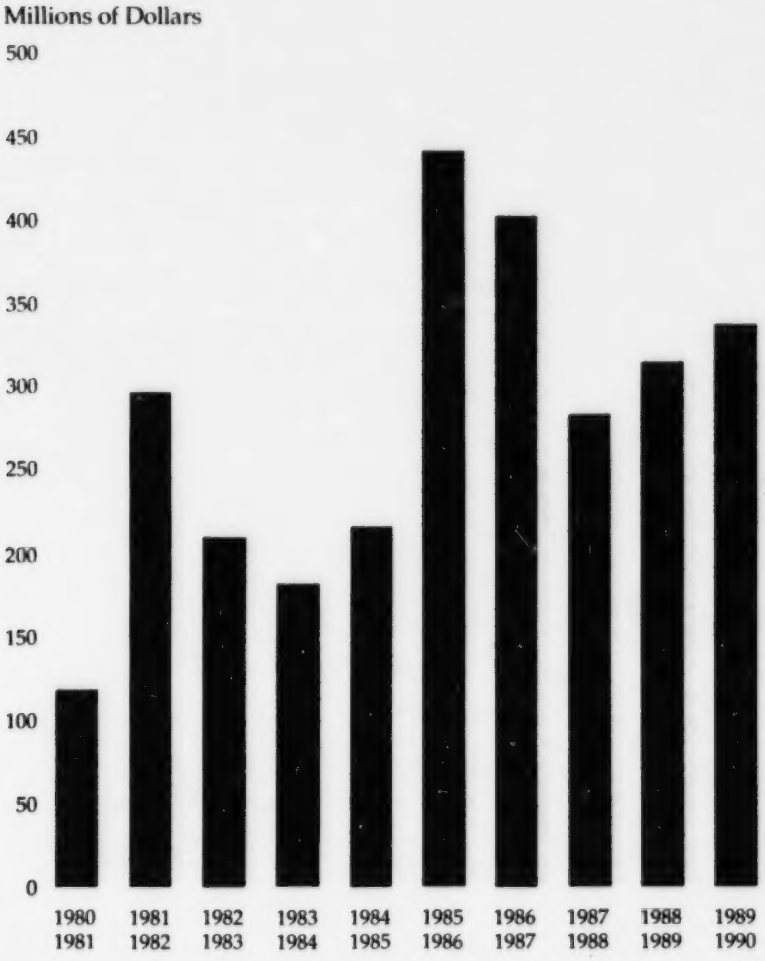
Continued

	1989-90 Budget estimates	1989-90 Special warrants	Expenditures for the years ending March 31 1990[a]	1989[b]
Vote 5 – Planning and Development				
(Sub-programs)				
Program support	1,677		1,592	1,415
Economic services	4,439		4,350	3,000
Irrigation and resource management	11,393		11,030	8,154
Total Vote 5	17,509		16,972	12,569
Vote 6 – Agriculture Development Lending Assistance				
(No sub-program breakdown)				
Total Vote 6	94,315		94,315	71,052
Vote 7 – Crop Insurance Assistance				
(No sub-program breakdown)				
Total Vote 7	13,768	4,500	17,751	14,382
Vote 8 – Agricultural Research Assistance				
(No sub-program breakdown)				
Total Vote 8	2,000		0	1,500
Total Department	**318,799**	**22,150**	**333,801**	**313,195**

[a] Preliminary – not audited

[b] Audited figures have been restated where necessary to conform to 1990 presentation.

Alberta Agriculture's Expenditures (Fiscal Years 80/81 to 89/90)



Statement of Revenue for the Year Ended March 31, 1990

	1989-90[a]	1988-89[b]
Payments from Government of Canada:		
Agriculture processing and marketing agreement	$2,553,894	$ 5,831,908
Other	509,226	568,489
Total Payments from Government of Canada	3,063,120	6,400,397
Fees, Permits and Licenses:		
Brand inspection	1,719,938	1,571,315
Brand registration fees	278,388	278,687
Farm livestock veterinary laboratory fees	193,225	178,122
Livestock water program	130,293	246,329
Swine breeding	128,731	153,282
Soil and feed testing	111,615	131,232
Dairy laboratory testing	93,277	95,378
Other	402,653	492,043
Total Fees, Permits and Licenses	3,058,120	3,146,388
Other Revenue:		
Refunds of expenditure:		
Previous year refunds	2,009,051	4,559,701
Dairy Board Act	411,650	331,910
Other	3,019	11,933
Sale of assets	567,557	238,707
Miscellaneous	303,294	289,465
Total Other Revenue	3,294,571	5,431,716
Total Revenue	**$9,415,811**	**$14,978,501**

[a] Preliminary— not audited

[b] Audited figures have been restated where necessary to conform to 1990 presentation.

Appendix 4: Summary of Alberta Farm Credit Stability Program Statistics to March 31, 1990

Authorizations:

Number of active loan authorizations	19,408
Amount authorized	$1,796,146,270
Average loan amount	$92,547

Loan Advances:

Number of loan advances	18,041
Total amount advanced	$1,690,478,294
Average loan advance	$93,702

Loan Categories:

	Amount advanced	%
Category "A" (Refinancing – same lender)	$1,001,151,311	59.2
Category "B" (Refinancing – other creditors)	$271,091,985	16.0
Category "C" (New acquisitions)	$418,234,998	24.8

Appendix 5: National Tripartite Stabilization

Alberta Participation in National Tripartite Stabilization 1989-90

Commodity	Enrollments	Stabilization payments
Slaughter cattle	2,359	$35,410,776
Feeder cattle	3,207	$ 1,938,549
Cow-calf	8,012	–
Lambs	499	$ 601,446
Hogs	5,296	$57,460,967
Sugar beets	576	$ 2,070,809
Beans	209	–
Honey	2,166	$ 3,475,689

National Tripartite Stabilization Eligible Units Report 1989-90

Commodity	Units*		Estimated % of Alberta production covered	Alberta as % of NTSP
Slaughter cattle	1,270,194	head	92	65
Feeder cattle	230,137	head	–	52
Cow-calf	579,000	head	33	58
Hogs	2,410,587	head	98	16
Lambs – ewe flock	39,787	lambs	53	36
– home-raised	23,003	lambs	53	54
Honey	28,964,072	lb	84	43
Sugar beets	576,827	tonnes	100	60
Beans	16,716	tonnes	99	88

*Includes eligible sales and/or registrations.

Appendix 6: Assistance Provided Under Agricultural Grants Act (April 1, 1989 - March 31, 1990)

Sector	No. of grants	Total
Processed food development section	97	$757,374
Process engineering	7	62,459
Crops, horticulture and feedstuffs	28	370,670
Cattle breed associations	23	208,731
Horse breed associations	16	84,139
Livestock, semen and embryo companies	8	49,004
Other livestock associations, shows and congresses	13	97,055
Farmers markets	61	36,290
Total	253	$1,665,722

Appendix 7: Canada-Alberta Agricultural Processing and Marketing Agreement Statistics

Canada-Alberta Agricultural Processing and Marketing Agreement 1990 Payments

Alfalfa	Capital	$845,450
Bakeries	Capital	$265,376
Containers	Capital	$50,738
Dairy	Capital	$174,184
Feeds	Capital	$1,129,686
Genetics	Capital	$9,694
Genetics	Research	$648,833
Meat	Capital	$648,833
Meat	Feasibility	$20,303
Seed	Capital	$340,681
Vegetable	Capital	$233,446
Vegetable	Feasibility	$35,250
Vegetable	Research	$52,290
Miscellaneous	Capital	$1,889,071
Miscellaneous	Feasibility	$72,912
Total		$6,228,731

continued

Appendix 7 Continued

Offers Made Under the Canada-Alberta Agricultural Processing and Marketing Agreement

	No. of offers	Private investment	Assistance offered
Alfalfa	9	$8,442,257	$1,820,878
Bakery	7	$550,360	$72,265
Dairy	3	$6,113,694	$1,468,664
Feeds	10	$3,247,101	$652,855
Meat	9	$3,870,813	$710,378
Seeds	4	$8,372,506	$1,350,029
Vegetables	9	$1,888,128	$333,676
Miscellaneous	17	$12,365,075	$2,089,787
Total	68	$44,749,934	$8,498,532

Nutritive Processing Agreement (NPA) Payments

Alfalfa	$37,757
Bakery	$11,432
Dairy	$149,179
Feeds	$178,247
Meat	$13,477
Vegetables	$12,299
Miscellaneous	$190,247
Total	$592,638

Appendix 8: Samples Received and Analyses Performed by the Food Laboratory Services Branch – April 1, 1989 to March 31, 1990

	Samples analysed		Analyses performed	
	89-90	88-89	89-90	88-89
Milk	24,877	26,663	157,904	157,920
Butter	122	191	680	967
Cheese	806	924	3,486	4,165
Ice cream	1,556	2,076	3,381	4,551
Dry milk	12	20	53	60
Processing plants survey	1,085	813	4,143	3,355
Honey	1,709	496	3,058	1,665
Washing agents	–	2	–	5
Water	267	328	792	1,047
Eggs	1,173	1,218	1,557	1,789
Meat	1,720	1,844	6,912	8,120
Vegetables	474	364	1,554	1,455
Fish and wildlife	119	184	547	924
Cereal products and forage	663	375	2,542	1,622
Human specimens	–	40	–	40
Soil	114	115	157	125
Research and collaborative studies	309	436	355	466
Miscellaneous foods	1,242	1,242	4,300	5,815
Central milk testing	658,624	639,218	2,639,101	2,437,144
Totals	694,882	676,549	2,830,522	2,631,235

Appendix 9: Livestock Brands and Inspection Statistics

Recording of Brands Summary

	Cattle	Horses	Sheep	Total
New brands issued	1,460	273	1	1,734
Transfers	673	56	0	729
Cancelled brands	603	347	0	950
Brands renewed	9,003	1,309	3	10,315
Brands reissued	159	36	0	195
Brands in good standing (December 31, 1989)	45,120	7,392	11	52,523

Livestock Inspections

Classes of livestock	No. of inspections	Change from previous year
Cattle	33,559	+ 1.5 %
Hogs	152,695	+ 12.9 %
Sheep	9,601	+ 22.5 %
Goats	1,780	+ 49.7 %
Buffalo	171	+ 116.5 %
Rabbits	10,714	- 6.3 %
Broilers	3,003,063	+ 7.4 %
Fowl	270,068	+ 6.8 %
Other poultry	122,505	+ 2.7 %

Appendix 10: Acts Administered by Alberta Agriculture

Agricultural Development Act
Agricultural Operation Practices Act
Agricultural Pests Act
Agricultural Research Institute Act
Agricultural Service Board Act
Agricultural Societies Act
Agrologists Act
Animal Protection Act
Artificial Insemination of Domestic Animals Act
Bee Act
Beet Lien Act
Brand Act
Crop Liens Priorities Act
Crop Payments (Irrigated Land Sales) Act
Dairy Board Act
Dairy Industry Act
Department of Agriculture Act
Farm Implement Act
Federal-Provincial Farm Assistance Act
Feeder Associations Guarantee Act
Fur Farms Act
Hail and Crop Insurance Act
Harvesting Liens Act
Horned Cattle Purchases Act
Irrigation Land Manager Act
Line Fence Act
Livery Stable Keepers Act
Livestock Diseases Act
Livestock Identification and Brand Inspection Act
Livestock Injury Act
Livestock and Livestock Products Act
Margarine Act
Marketing of Agricultural Products Act
Meat Inspection Act
Seed Control Areas Act
Seed Grain Purchase Act
Soil Conservation Act
Stray Animals Act
Surface Rights Act
Threshers' Lien Act
Vegetable Sales (Alberta) Act
Veterinary Profession Act
Water Resources Commission Act (Joint)
Weed Control Act
Wheat Board Money Trust Act

Appendix 11: Other Annual Reports

Other Statutory Annual Reports Issued by Boards, Commissions and Corporations Reporting to the Minister of Agriculture and Associate Minister of Agriculture

Alberta Dairy Control Board
Alberta Hail and Crop Insurance Corporation
Alberta Agricultural Development Corporation
Alberta Agricultural Products Marketing Council
Alberta Agricultural Research Institute

Other Annual Reports Issued by Alberta Agriculture

Animal Industry Division
Animal Health Division
Plant Industry Division
Farming For The Future
Farmers' Advocate
Surface Rights Board

Appendix 12: Wheat Board Money Trust Account

Balance Sheet as at March 31, 1990 (unaudited)

Assets	1990	1989
Cash	$53,263	$61,620
Accrued interest	1,419	1,420
Investments (Note 3)	52,995	52,993
Unexpended funds	$107,677	$116,033

Statement of Revenue, Expenditure and Unexpended Funds for the Year Ended March 31, 1990 (unaudited)

Revenue	1990	1989
Interest and amortization of discounts	$10,244	$9,697
Expenditure		
Scholarships and bursaries	18,600	13,800
Excess of expenditure over revenue	8,356	4,103
Unexpended funds at beginning of year	116,033	120,136
Fund equity at end of year	$107,677	$116,033

Authority

The Wheat Board Money Trust Account operates under the authority of the Wheat Board Money Trust Act, Chapter W-7, Revised Statutes of Alberta 1980.

Appendix 13: Agricultural Statistics for Alberta

Alberta's Population and Land Area

		1986 Census
Total population		2,375,278
Farm population		183,830
Number of farms		57,777
Total land area	acres	157,710,720
Occupied farm land	acres	51,040,463
Improved land	acres	31,891,516
Unimproved land	acres	19,148,947

Alberta's Farm Capital Values 1989

	Value ($'000)
Land and buildings	21,329,453
Livestock and poultry	2,974,685
Implements and machinery	5,592,942
Total Farm Capital Value	29,897,080
1989 Average value per acre of rural real estate sales	392

Farm Operating Expenses and Depreciation in Alberta

	1988[r]	($'000)	1989[p]
Taxes	69,000		73,000
Gross farm rent	160,000		170,000
Wages to farm labor	272,000		292,000
Interest payments	434,000		446,000
Total machinery expenses	490,000		497,000
Fertilizer and lime	252,000		272,000
Other crop expenses	284,000		323,000
Feed	273,000		280,000
Other livestock expenses	277,000		309,000
Repairs – buildings and fence	97,000		103,000
Electricity and telephone	69,000		69,000
Miscellaneous	184,000		220,000
Total Operating Expenses	2,861,000		3,054,000
Depreciation on buildings	78,000		86,000
Depreciation on machinery	589,000		612,000
Total Operating Expenses and Depreciation Charges	**3,528,000**		**3,752,000**

[r] - revised [p] - preliminary

Income of Alberta Farm Operators

	1988[r]	($'000)	1989[p]
Total farm cash receipts	4,408,000		4,509,000
Total operating expenses	2,861,000		3,054,000
Net cash income	1,547,000		1,455,000
Income in kind	26,000		26,000
Depreciation charges	667,000		698,000
Realized net income	906,000		783,000

[r] - revised [p] - preliminary

Estimated Farm Cash Receipts for Alberta[1]

	1988[r]	($'000)	1989[p]
Wheat	686,000		694,000
Oats	66,000		89,000
Barley	255,000		374,000
CWB advances and deferments (net)	(59,000)		31,000
WGSA payments	180,000		56,000
Crop insurance payments	173,000		194,000
Rye	8,000		6,000
Flaxseed	7,000		6,000
Canola	444,000		408,000
Sugar Beets	19,000		23,000
Potatoes	40,000		42,000
Vegetables	31,000		34,000
Floriculture and nursery	34,000		37,000
Other crops	79,000		68,000
Deficiency and supplementary payments[2]	315,000		130,000
Total Crops	2,278,000		2,192,000
Cattle and calves	1,386,000		1,462,000
Hogs	249,000		249,000
Sheep and lambs	7,000		7,000
Milk and cream	238,000		247,000
Poultry	88,000		96,000
Eggs	44,000		46,000
Other livestock and products	38,000		30,000
Deficiency and supplementary payments[2]	80,000		180,000
Total Livestock and Products	2,130,000		2,317,000
Total Farm Cash Receipts	**4,408,000**		**4,509,000**

[r] - revised [p] - preliminary

[1] Alberta Agriculture forecasts in conjunction with Statistics Canada.

[2] Includes Federal and Provincial Income Stabilization and supplementary payments

Estimates of Alberta's Out-of-Province Shipments 1989*

Commodity	Quantity ('000 tonnes)	Value ($'000)
Wheat	3 900	767,119
Barley	3 034	391,317
Canola	1 400	417,712
Beef and veal	288	765,428
Pork	35	75,374
Cattle (number)	422,953	386,727
Hogs (number)	753,266	87,501
Other agricultural products	783,981	
Total		3,675,159

*Includes inter-provincial and international exports.

Alberta's Out-of-Country Exports Estimates – 1989

Commodity	Quantity ('000 tonnes)	Value ($'000)
Wheat	2 450	572,997
Barley	1 974	291,105
Canola	802	253,774
Beef	38	95,801
Pork	17	34,178
Cattle (number)	146,519	146,630
Hogs (number)	484,240	56,563
Other agricultural products	–	630,069
Total		2,081,117

Alberta's Food and Beverage Sector

	1987	1988
Estimated value of shipments ($ billions)	4.63	4.91
Value added (total activity only, $ billions)	0.98	1.063
Number of employees	14,124	14,694
Number of establishments	290	310